

The Rainy-Day Route

Name: _____ Date: _____

Luis had planned every step of the book drive. On Friday afternoon, his team would carry boxes from the classroom across the open courtyard to the library. He had drawn a straight line on the school map. It was the shortest route, and he was proud of it. When Nia mentioned the covered walkway, Luis tapped his map. “That takes twice as long.”

By Friday, rain was drumming against the windows. Luis stared at the boxes stacked by the door. Their paper signs were already curling in the damp air. The librarian needed the books before the end of the day, when families would arrive to choose some. Luis suggested covering the boxes with jackets and running. Nia looked at a thin cardboard corner. “What if a box gets wet and breaks?”

Luis opened his map again. The covered walkway went around the courtyard, past the cafeteria, and into a side door of the library. He had dismissed it because it was longer. Now he noticed that the route stayed under a roof. He crossed out his straight line and asked Nia to help him mark the turns.

The team formed pairs so no one had to carry a heavy box alone. Luis walked ahead to open each door. At the cafeteria, the group stopped to let a lunch cart pass. Luis checked the time, took a breath, and waited. A careful trip mattered more than following his first plan.

The books arrived dry, with time left to arrange them. When the librarian thanked Luis for organizing the drive, he handed her the revised map. “Nia found the better route,” he said. Then he added a note at the bottom: Check the weather. Listen to the team.

Read closely. Find the evidence.

1. How does the rainy setting contribute to the plot?

- A. It gives the team more books to carry.
- B. It makes the planned route risky and forces a new decision.
- C. It prevents families from choosing books forever.
- D. It closes every library entrance.

2. How does Nia's warning affect the events?

- A. Luis cancels the drive.
- B. The team leaves the books outside.
- C. The librarian changes the deadline.
- D. Luis reconsiders the covered walkway.

3. Which detail shows that Luis's character develops?

- A. He gives Nia credit for the better route.
- B. He draws a straight line at the start.
- C. Boxes are stacked near the door.
- D. Rain falls against the windows.

4. How do Luis's changed actions help resolve the conflict?

- A. He carries every box by himself.
- B. He refuses to stop for the lunch cart.
- C. He accepts a slower route that keeps the books dry.
- D. He asks families to collect wet books.

Talk it through: Explain the chain from setting to conflict to solution. Include how Luis changes along the way.